

REC 52 1057  
x Pg 2 KJ8

## RFE Chief In Error On 'Facts'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—Mr. Jack Patterson, the paid director of "Crusade for Freedom" which solicits "truth dollars" to finance the profligate Radio Free Europe, has put out a nine-page memorandum answering statements that I have made in these columns about the Free Europe operation.

It is, of course, a document of self-justification, to pacify the qualms that may be stirring in the minds of the distinguished array of gentlemen who are being used as window dressing. Such is the expected course of a promoter who wants to hold his lush job.

Unhappily, however, Mr. Patterson is somewhat extravagant in his "facts", as he calls them, which suggests that he is not very smart. He must have known that copies of this document would fall into my hands,

### CAPITAL REPORT

By FULTON LEWIS, JR.

and that all inaccuracies would be clocked, pronto.

**THIS PARTICULAR** complaint has to do with statements I made that Radio Free Europe has been infiltrated by Red "plants". Mr. Patterson tells his directors:

"There is no basis to Mr. Lewis' charges on security. The chief security officer of Radio Free Europe was one of the founders—with Mr. J. Edgar Hoover—of the modern FBI, and accepted FBI procedures on screening are used."

Mr. Patterson confirmed to me, by telephone, that the man he refers to is Thomas E. Myers, personnel director of Radio Free Europe and for all I know a very competent individual.

The record shows that he joined the FBI on June 23, 1934, and was assigned to various field offices throughout the country as a routine FBI agent. The only time he ever served in Washington was from June of 1940 to May of 1941, when he was on similar duty in the District of Columbia field office.

During this time also, he was

attached for a short time to the "seat of government," or main national FBI headquarters, along with scores of others. He resigned from the FBI service on August 13, 1943 and has had no connections with it since.

J. Edgar Hoover founded the "modern FBI" on May 10, 1924 when he was appointed director by President Coolidge.

You will note a ten-year discrepancy in dates: Mr. Hoover founded the organization in 1924, Mr. Myers came into it as a rookie agent in 1934 and never even got to Washington until June of 1940.

**AS FOR THE** "accepted FBI procedures on screening" which Patterson attributes to him, Mr. Myers has had no connection with the FBI for 14 years, which was long before existing loyalty and security screening processes were put into effect, because there was no loyalty-security program.

(© 1957, by King Features Synd., Inc.)